

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2003**

ON ACT 160, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2002, RELATING TO NEUROTRAUMA

PREPARED BY:

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DECEMBER 2002**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Act 160, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002, the Department of Health is submitting an annual report on the activities of the neurotrauma special fund.

The neurotrauma special fund was authorized in 2002 by Act 160 for funding and contracting for services relating to neurotrauma. Funds are acquired through surcharges on traffic citations (speeding, drunk driving, not wearing seat belts, leaving the scene of an accident involving bodily injury) that are related to causes of neurotrauma injuries.

Effective January 1, 2003, surcharges from the specified traffic citations will begin to be deposited into the special fund. In preparation, the Department of Health (DOH) has worked with neurotrauma survivors and their families to identify priorities for expenditure of monies in the special fund. The most cited need was for assistance to access services and supports (case management). Procedures have been developed by the Judiciary and the DOH for transfer of monies into the neurotrauma special fund

The DOH has also established in compliance with Act 160, a Neurotrauma Advisory Board and an infrastructure “to develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries.” The Neurotrauma Advisory Board will provide stakeholder input into the DOH’s neurotrauma activities and administration of the special fund.

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ACT 160

An annual report on the activities under the neurotrauma special fund.

Introduction

In recognition that persons with neurotrauma injuries constitute a significant segment of Hawaii's population and that there is lack of support for them to live in the community, the 2002 Legislature passed SB 594, SD1, HD1, CD1 with the Governor signing the bill on June 7, 2002. The resulting Act 160 mandates the Department of Health (DOH) to "develop, lead, administer, coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and set direction for a comprehensive system to support and provide services for survivors of neurotrauma injuries." The Act also requires the DOH to establish a neurotrauma advisory board and administer a neurotrauma special fund. Although the neurotrauma special fund does not start to accumulate monies until January 1, 2003, the DOH has been structuring the operational procedures for use of the fund. This report provides a status report on the fund.

Neurotrauma Advisory Board

A 21- member Neurotrauma Advisory Board, established by Act 160, advises the DOH on the use of the fund and development of a system of supports for persons with neurotrauma. The attached membership list constitutes key stakeholder group representation.

Use of the Neurotrauma Special Fund

Act 160 specifies that the neurotrauma special fund shall be used for the purpose of funding and contracting for services relating to neurotrauma as follows: (1) Education on neurotrauma, (2) Assistance to individuals and families to identify and obtain access to services (3) Creation of a registry of neurotrauma injuries within the State to identify incidence, prevalence, individual needs, and related information and, (4) Necessary administrative expenses to carry out this chapter not to exceed two percent of the total amount collected.

(1) Education on neurotrauma

Federal grant funds of \$25,000 were utilized to initiate a Speakers Bureau to educate the public on brain injury. The Brain Injury Association of Hawaii has been contracted to provide such services. Continued funding for this activity is expected to be sustained by the neurotrauma special fund in subsequent years.

(2) Assistance to individuals and families to identify and obtain access to services

Based upon input from survivors, families and the State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board, the priority use of the special fund is for case management services to assist survivors and families to access supports and services. As a result, a definition of case management that best fits the needs of the neurotrauma population

is being developed. The Neurotrauma Board will review this definition and core functions will be developed and incorporated into the scope of services for contracts.

Since the DOH is committed to working within the limits of the neurotrauma special fund for case management services, it will work with the Neurotrauma Board to develop eligibility standards and identify priorities for access to case management services. It is estimated that 80-90% of the neurotrauma special fund will be allocated for case management services.

In support of self-determination and choice, the request for proposal process will not be used. Qualifying agencies will be certified by the DOH and individuals will be able to select the agency that best fits their needs. The DOH is identifying a pricing structure for services. Monitoring of the case management services and customer outcomes and satisfaction will be done by the DOH.

- (3) Creation of a registry of neurotrauma injuries within the State to identify incidence, prevalence, individual needs, and related information.

DOH has been surveying other states with brain injury and/or trauma registries to identify the data elements that will be most meaningful for public health measures and an ongoing needs assessment for community supports in Hawaii. Once developed, access to data from emergency rooms, hospitals and trauma centers will be needed. Procedures to meet the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements are being developed by the DOH to meet the 2003 deadlines for privacy, security and electronic transmission of protected health information.

- (4) Administrative expenses to carry out this chapter are not to exceed two percent of the total amount collected.

Utilization of funds under this category will be determined after plans are finalized for the prioritized case management and registry activities.

Collection of Funds

Procedures have been completed between the Judiciary and the DOH for the transfer of traffic surcharge collections into the neurotrauma special fund to be administered by the DOH. The fund, authorized by statute, will start receiving funds from January 1, 2003.

Summary

Given the Legislative intent of Act 160, the DOH implemented an infrastructure for a neurotrauma system of supports, convened a Neurotrauma Advisory Board and is developing operational procedures for administering a neurotrauma special fund. When sufficient monies are deposited into the special fund from January 1, 2003, contracts will be issued for the educational, case management and registry activities permitted in Act 160.

NEUROTRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD

Board Category	Neurotrauma Advisory Board Member	Title/Representation
Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor/Family Members	Gayle Taira – Hawaii	Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor
	Lyna Burian	Parent of Traumatic Brain Injury Survivor
Spinal Cord Injury Survivor/Family Member	Glenn Morgan – Kauai	Spinal Cord Injury Survivor
	John Driscoll	Spinal Cord Injury Survivor
Stroke Survivor/Family Member	Curtis Tom	Stroke Survivor
State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Representative	TBA	Chairperson, State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board
Representative from the Brain Injury Association – Hawaii	Milton Takara	Survivor of Traumatic Brain Injury
	Angie Enoka	Survivor of Traumatic Brain Injury
Stroke Association Or Representative	Karen Seth	Hawaii Heart Association
	Scott Sagum - Kauai	Stroke Survivor/Support Grp. Rep.
Private Sector Provider	Dr. Maryellen Markley	Director, All Star Sports and Therapy
	Dr. Peter Rossi	Medical Director, Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific
	Fred Fortin - Chairperson	Vice-President, Community Relations, HMSA
Trauma Center Representative	Dr. Gail Tominaga	Director, Queen's Trauma Services
At-Large Members	Neil Shim	Administrator, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
	Beth Freitas	RN, Chair of Think First
	John Tomoso-Maui	Maui City & County Elderly Services
	Stella Wong	Catholic Charities, Director of Elderly Services
	Ian Mattoch	Law Offices of Ian Mattoch

